electricity in electrified villages. In addition, biomass gasifier systems are being deployed for captive power generation and thermal applications in industries. The steps taken by the Ministry to promote biomass gasification technology includes capital subsidy for setting up such projects and financial assistance for preparation of Detailed Project Reports, awareness creation and training.

(c) and (d) Small and medium size biomass gasifier systems in the range of 15 KW to 600 KW based on the indigenously developed technology are exported by private biomass gasifier manufacturers to countries such as Australia, Combodia, Colombia, Germany, Italy, Sri Lanka, USA, etc.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The cost of project is placed at US $ 39.15 million of which US $ 5.65 million is a grant from the Global Environmental Facility, US $ 5.24 million as contribution from this Ministry, US $ 24.82 million (Euro 19.971 million) as proposed concessional credit from Kreditanstalt fur Wiederaufbau (KfW), Germany and the remaining US $ 3.44 million as likely investment from prospective project promoters.

Installed Capacity of Wind Energy

644. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that against a potential of 45,000 MW of wind energy, the present installed capacity is only 5,300 MW;

(b) if so, whether Government will consider allowing wind turbine projects on agricultural land where cultivation is not affected; and

(c) the other plans to harness more wind power?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) A total wind power capacity of 6270 MW has been installed in the country as on 31st December, 2006 against an estimated gross potential of 45,000 MW.

(b) Wind power projects are mostly set up as commercial projects through private investments at potential windy sites. The Government of India has no role in allotment of land for wind power projects and such

projects are cleared by respective State Nodal Agencies/State Electricity Boards.

(c) Government encourage setting up of wind power projects in the country by providing fiscal incentives, such as concessional import duty on certain components of wind electric generator, excise duty exemption, ten years' tax holiday on income generated from wind power projects, benefit of accelerated depreciation, loan from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and technical support by the Centre for Wind Energy Technology (C-WET) including detailed wind resource assessment to identify further potential sites. This apart, preferential tariff is being provided for wind power in most of the potential States.

Scheme for production of bio-diesel

†645. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a scheme to reduce the import of costly oil by formulating the scheme to produce bio-diesel on large scale;

(b) whether there are great possibilities of cultivation of jatropha in Rajasthan which can be used for producing bio-diesel; and

(c) whether Government will consider to formulate any scheme for setting up of plants by the national companies to produce diesel at large scale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) Government have set up a National Mission on Bio-diesel. This National Mission which is being implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development includes a demonstration phase under which Jatropha/Pongamia plantation on 5 lakh hectare of forest and non-forest waste lands would be taken up for production of bio-diesel.

(c) As per estimates provided by the Ministry of Rural Development about 32 million hectares of wasteland in the country including Rajasthan would be suitable for plantation of Jatropha for production of bio-diesel.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.